

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Volume XXX.....No. 8

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—THE LATE INDIAN—FRODO'S LAWYER.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—HAMILTON.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—MORRIS.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE STRIKES OF NEW YORK.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MORRIS—HANDSOME JACK—MY OLD WIFE AND YOUNG UMBRELLA.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—O'NEAL THE GREAT—LOTTIE TICKET—PAUL JONES.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—THE SHAMROCK.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway.—TWO MARIONETTES—THE LIVING SKELETON—THE LARGEST SEAL—GRAND SPECTACLE—FABLES, THE HATES, &c.—DAY AND EVENING.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—STRIKING SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, &c.—ARTISTE WARD AGAIN ON THE MORNING.

WOODS' MINSTREL HALL, 514 Broadway.—HAMILTON—HAPPY UNCLE TOM—STRIKING SONGS, DANCES, &c.—ARTISTE WARD AGAIN ON THE MORNING.

SALLE D'OPERA, 255 Broadway.—ROBERT HELLER—HAMILTON—HAPPY UNCLE TOM—STRIKING SONGS, DANCES, &c.—ARTISTE WARD AGAIN ON THE MORNING.

VAN AMBURG & CO'S MARIONETTE MENAGERIE, 529 and 531 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

HIPPODROME, Fourteenth street.—EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC AND ACOBATIC ENTERTAINMENTS—HARRISON BLUMHARD.

TURKISH HALL, 720 Broadway.—OCCASANT'S ORIENTAL ENTERTAINMENT.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway.—BALLET, PASTORALS, BURLESQUES, &c.—HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT.

VANNUCHI'S MUSEUM, 800 Broadway.—MOVING WAX FIGURES—FRANK MILLER.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

New York, Monday, January 9, 1865.

THE SITUATION.

There are but few new military movements to notice this morning. But the present apparent lull will no doubt soon give place to stirring and important events.

General Sherman's army is reported by the latest rebel dispatches as marching on Grahamsville, South Carolina; but the statements are so confused that scarcely any intelligence of value can be gathered from them. The authors of these rebel accounts are apparently so frightened or so far from the scene of operations that they cannot satisfactorily determine whether only Kilpatrick's cavalry or the whole of the two grand armies under Sherman and Foster are manœuvring at the present time in Secession's cradle State.

Nothing additional of great interest has reached us from the important theatre of war on the James river, or from the armies under Generals Thomas and Sheridan.

Our correspondence furnishes additional confirmation of the fact, which has been for a long time apparent, that the majority of the people of Texas, like the citizens of many other of the nominally rebellious States, are anxiously awaiting the time when they shall again be free from that protection and proud national distinction which is only found under the folds of the Star Spangled Banner. They are only held in a seeming allegiance to Jeff. Davis' confederacy by the strong arm of military power. That once broken, as it soon will be, the people, after their four years of estrangement, will again joyfully resume the noble position of citizens of the great republic.

A delegation representing railroad companies along our northern border had a conference at the State Department in Washington on Saturday with Secretary Seward, for the purpose of inducing him to relax somewhat in his rigorous regulations regarding passports. But they were entirely unsuccessful, and the system will still be enforced.

Each successive day's rebel newspapers give evidence of the growing disaffection to the rule of Jeff. Davis among his enforced subjects. The extracts which we publish this morning show how strong the Union feeling is in North Carolina, and what a source of annoyance it is to the adherents of the secessionist confederacy.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

According to an order issued by Provost Marshal General Fry, no enlistments previous to the 19th of December are to be credited on quotas. The President's last call for three hundred thousand additional troops. If this order shall remain unmodified, this city, in order to escape the draft, will have to enlist many more men than has been supposed. Our Volunteer Chairman, Supervisor Blunt, left the city for Washington last night, to have another conference with the War Department on this matter.

On the President's last call the quotas in the Second and Third Congressional districts of this State, which are mainly comprised in the city of Brooklyn, amount to seven thousand six hundred and five men. Of this number it appears the Second district has to furnish four thousand nine hundred and ninety-five, and the Third district two thousand six hundred and ten. According to this exhibit Brooklyn has a chance of shortly supplanting its religious synonym of "the City of Churches" by the patriotic designation of "the City of Citizens."

During yesterday the weather was clear and cold, and the atmosphere, though sharp and biting to the feelings of many, was most deliciously wholesome and invigorating. Slaters were again in their glory, the ice on nearly all the ponds in and around the city being in splendid condition. Thousands of people were in the Park, making it as merry as on a June or October day.

A fireman, named Patrick Conan, was taken suddenly ill during the fire at the corner of Centre and Leonard streets yesterday morning, and died soon after. A coroner's inquest on the body developed the fact that he died from disease of the lungs.

Richard Geraghty was yesterday arrested and admitted to bail on the charge of shooting a man, accidentally,

as he alleges, in a drinking place in Pearl street, early yesterday morning.

In Saturday's HERALD we noticed the fact that William Beebe, alias Fitzgerald, was found lying on the sidewalk in Blooming street, mortally wounded by a pistol shot, on Thursday evening. From the effects of the injuries he died at Bellevue Hospital on Saturday, and yesterday an inquest was held on the body, when it appeared that he was shot by one of his own friends in a drinking house in Hester street. Beebe and several friends had a difficulty with the proprietor, at whom one of them fired a pistol, which missed its aim, the shot striking Beebe.

The Carmen's and Laborers' Association are to hold a meeting at No. 78 Prince street to-day, when the subject of the back pay of the street cleaners will be taken into consideration.

There is considerable opposition manifested in some of the British North American provinces to the proposed colonial confederation. In Prince Edward Island it has caused a ministerial resignation, and it is claimed that a large number of the inhabitants there are opposed to the scheme. In Nova Scotia also some numerous attended and enthusiastic meetings of influential citizens to protest against it have been held.

The republican majority of Maine, as officially declared, is 21,112. President Lincoln's vote is 68,104, and General McClellan's 46,992. The soldiers' vote is divided as follows:—Lincoln, 4,174; McClellan, 738.

Thomas and Hood—The War in the Southwest.

The original compact and formidable Southern confederacy organized under Jeff. Davis is now cut up into three sections, detached from each other—the section on the west side of the Mississippi, the section between that river and the State of South Carolina and the section extending thence to the Richmond peninsula. The trans-Mississippi section, with a military station here and there, and with the river actively patrolled by our gunboats, may be left just as it is until the completion of the work still before our armies on the eastern side. The extreme eastern section, bounded on the north by Sheridan's army, on the west by the Alleghany mountains and our military posts at Knoxville and Chattanooga, and on the south by General Sherman and the Savannah river, with the army immediately under the eye of General Grant in the centre, embraces now, in point of fact, all that is left to King Jeff. of his late extensive dominions.

The vast intermediate section between the Savannah river and the Mississippi is now virtually subdued; for the armies of Sherman and Thomas, or either of them, may roam over it without serious molestation in any direction. Assuming, however, that General Sherman's next business will be a movement in support of General Grant, the country to the west of the Savannah river will fall within the new department of General Thomas. Over all this vast region, including the great productive States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, there are no rebel forces worth mentioning but the remnants of the army of Gen. Hood. They are now supposed to constitute an army of less than twenty thousand men, with less than twenty pieces of artillery—a considerable reduction from the forty-five thousand men and their one hundred and ten cannon lately confronting General Thomas in his works at Nashville.

Hood, with his shattered, diminished and demoralized forces, has succeeded in recrossing the Tennessee river into Alabama, and the late heavy rains in that region will, perhaps, render an immediate pursuit impossible, from the miry condition of the roads. But the same difficulties which will arrest the pursuit will check the flight of the fugitive. His only railway line of retreat is down the Mobile and Ohio road, through the State of Mississippi; but, unfortunately for Hood, that famous Mississippi river, Grierson, from Memphis, has been at his old tricks again, and has dismantled said road in a very shocking way from Corinth down to Okaloosa, a distance of nearly a hundred miles. Still below Grierson, in Mississippi, other Yankee raiders, from Vicksburg, have been at work; so that Hood, cut off from every railroad and river line, east, west and south, even if not further disturbed, will perhaps be compelled to pass the balance of the winter in Northern Alabama, depending upon the surrounding country for his supplies.

Meantime, Gen. Thomas, with his new base on the Tennessee river, is admirably posted to watch the movements of his unfortunate adversary, and to head him off in any direction he may take. We know that Thomas will do the work assigned him, whatever it may be. If required he could now afford to lend the Army of the Potomac twenty or thirty thousand men for a month or two; but it is more probable that his first business will be a decisive settlement with the remaining fragments of Hood's army. This object accomplished, we shall next expect Thomas, in a triumphal march down the abounding corn and cotton valleys of Alabama to Mobile, to repeat, if necessary, the holiday excursion of Sherman from Atlanta to Savannah.

We await, in easy confidence, the further development of Gen. Grant's magnificent plans and movements, as worked out by such skillful, energetic and efficient supporting generals as Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Canby, Granger, Stoneman, Burbridge and others. We may consider the trans-Mississippi section of "the confederacy" as out of the fight; the eastern section as fairly within the grasp of Grant, Sheridan and Sherman, and the intermediate section as substantially subdued and ready to give up the ghost. It will not be a matter of surprise if with, or even before, the next overhauling of Hood, we shall hear of a general uprising of the people of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia in favor of submission, in order to save their two or three millions of bales of cotton still on hand from the dangers of a searching Yankee invasion. To this end, including the negro question, the political combinations at work in Richmond against Davis promise to be as effective against him as the relentless military combinations of our General-in-Chief. Never were all the various elements of the military, political and social situations of the South so favorably disposed as now for a sudden collapse at Jeff. and his ruling confederates for parts unknown.

THE CANADIAN PASSPORT GRIEVANCE.—Our Canadian neighbors are making a terrible outcry about the inconvenience of the passport system. This time it is their ox that is gored. They had but few words of sympathy for us when our border towns were invaded by the thieves and cutthroats whom they had encouraged. Now our measures of self-defence excite their ire, not because they are unnecessary, but because they are injurious to their interests. We can tell them how to abate the nuisance, for such we admit it must be. Let them do the police of their own frontier, and we shall be glad to relieve them from the infliction of which they complain.

The Partisan Press Since the Recent Election.

During the canvass which preceded the recent election we frequently took occasion to direct public attention to the extravagances and the vulgarity of the partisan press, and to warn the editors of those papers against the natural consequences of their folly. Our warnings were unheeded, and the result is precisely as we predicted. So long as the canvass continued the partisan editors could make a little money by printing campaign documents and by farming out their columns for drafts upon a secret service funds of the party; but when the election was decided these sources of revenue ceased. During the canvass a few people subscribed to the partisan press because they absurdly imagined it to be a duty to their party; but when the election was over this patronage was also withdrawn. As for the general public, who take a newspaper for its value as a journal and not for its politics, they have long since been disgusted with the style in which the partisan press is mismanaged, and will have nothing whatever to do with it. Consequently the decline in the influence, circulation and profits of the party papers everywhere, and especially in this State, has been most marked since the Presidential election.

Naturally enough the papers of both parties suffer alike. We learn, upon very excellent authority, that the circulation of the Albany Argus, the News and the World has been considerably reduced recently, and the proprietors of the Tribune themselves inform us that they have derived no profit from their journal during the past two years, thus showing that even the excitement of a most important election was not sufficient to make that paper pay. These facts conclusively demonstrate that there has been a decided intellectual revolution among the people of all parties. The democrats understand that such organs as the Argus, News and World defeated them at the late election, and the republicans begin to comprehend that the fanatical theories of the Tribune are utterly outrageous and impracticable. The reaction which we have so long anticipated has come. We are entering upon the era of common sense. The stale political rubbish of Belmont, Barlow and Company, and the flighty, fanaticalisms of Greeley, Gay and Company, are equally unpopular. Ruined by its own leaders, and more particularly by its own editors, the democratic party is high and dry upon the shoals. The conservative republicans are alarmed at the perils into which radical editors are endeavoring to guide them. Since the war began the people have become less partisan and more patriotic. Those journals which have brought about this revolution, and have shaped their policy by it, are prospering. Those which have disregarded the signs of the times are failing. They would have failed sooner had not the Presidential election temporarily sustained them; but they will fall all the more completely now that the election is over and has afforded them no substantial relief. Opium eaters die in torments when the drug which has stimulated them is removed, and partisan papers die when the drug of political prejudice disappears. The last election was decided by ideas; but the partisan papers had no ideas and could get hold of very little money. Thus the intellectual revolution which commenced before the election involved their destruction, and the withdrawal of subscriptions and patronage since election seals their inevitable fate.

Instead of regarding this matter philosophically, as we do, the partisan press of this city and the West attributes its misfortune to the paper duty, and is beseeching Congress to reduce this necessary tax. To die gracefully is an accomplishment which partisan editors have not learned. They ought to have sense enough to see that if the paper duty were killing them the conductors of the independent press would be dying likewise. But, on the contrary, the HERALD is more prosperous than ever, and its circulation has recently increased remarkably. Imported paper ought to be taxed, and it ought to be taxed heavily in order to encourage domestic manufacturers. The price of paper is high; but it has not increased any more than the prices of other articles. Indeed, as we explained the other day, the rise in paper corresponds exactly with the rise in gold. Since the partisan editors did so much to depreciate the currency they ought not to grumble at this result. When gold was at par paper was sold at ten cents a pound, and when gold was at two hundred and forty, paper was sold at twenty-four cents a pound. Nothing could be more mathematically correct than this proportion. Should Congress reduce the duty upon paper this proportion may possibly be disturbed; but that will not save the partisan press. These bewildered editors cannot be induced to perceive that it is not the price of white paper which troubles them, but it is the quality of the articles which they print upon that paper. The HERALD pays the same money for its paper as they do for theirs; but we prosper and they fail. Evidently, then, the paper duty does not account for their failure. It is only one of a series of circumstances which they cannot now resist. Had they followed our advice, adopted our policy and imitated our example, they would have found journalism to be the noblest of professions, and would have been able to maintain themselves respectably, in war times or peace times, with paper at a dollar a pound or at a cent a pound. The people are willing to pay any money for a newspaper which pleases them and embodies the spirit of the age; but they will not subscribe for dull, stupid, bigoted, partisan papers at any price. There is the whole subject in a nutshell, and if the partisan editors have any brains they ought to study, comprehend and make a practical application of it at once.

THE PROGRESS OF MANUFACTURES IN THE UNITED STATES.—In a table recently published in Boston, showing the condition of the different factories in New England, the average dividends paid by the several manufacturing companies for the last six months of the year 1864 were quoted at the rate of twenty per cent per annum, thus proving that the capital invested in manufacturing business is very profitably employed.

In the natural course of things the present heavy tariff on articles of foreign production, the advanced price of gold, and the consequent high rate of exchange, must greatly stimulate domestic manufactures. Before long we shall see factories for the manufacture of cotton and woollen fabrics springing up everywhere, and many years will not elapse before the United States will be the greatest manufacturing, as it is now the greatest producing nation, in the world.

At present we produce everything that a country needs for its own wants, and help besides to feed many other countries. With our varieties of latitude, climate and soil, there is hardly anything which can be made to yield to skill and labor that is not produced here. Our Pacific seaboard and Western territories are teeming with gold and silver; the Central States are rich in coal and iron—not to say anything of the petroleum of El Dorado—the whole West is a cereal garden, out of which the hungry multitudes of a hundred nations might be fed. Cotton, sugar, tobacco and rice, equal to the consumption of half a world, pour in from the Southern States; wool is grown in abundance on the Western prairies, on the pastures of the Northwestern States, and in the New England States, while the frontier regions on the Northern lakes give their tribute of lead and copper.

With such resources it is impossible long to retard the enterprise which will be devoted to manufactures. Not only will native capital be invested, but foreign speculators will find their interest to embark their means in the manufacture of cotton and woollen goods, taking advantage of all our facilities—of products raised almost at the door of their factories, of our cheap coal and immense water power. Thousands of the skilled artisans of England are ready and anxious to emigrate to this country as soon as a stimulus is given to manufactures. The war is furnishing that stimulus, and before five years of peace has refreshed the land the United States will be the largest manufacturing as well as the most fruitful producing country in the world.

RAILROAD DISASTERS AND HOW TO PREVENT THEM.—The frequency and fatal character of railroad disasters of late render it imperative that some cogent measures should be taken to prevent their recurrence. It is not impossible to accomplish this, for most of the collisions on record, whereby human life has been sacrificed, are not the result of accident, as they are alleged to be, but of gross carelessness and indifference to public safety. Within a few days we have had to announce three railroad disasters of a serious character—one in which the boiler of a locomotive exploded in the very heart of Jersey City, and smashed in the roof of a house; another a collision between two trains in the tunnel of the same city, in which case the corner's jury administered a weak reprimand to one of the railroad companies; and the latest one that we hear of occurred on the Michigan Central road on Tuesday, when two trains, rushing at full speed, came together and demolished each other.

Now it is evident that the verdicts of coroners' juries are worthless for the prevention of these disasters. There are three ways by which we would suggest that their recurrence may be avoided. First, the State Legislatures should enact penal statutes which would spread a wholesome terror among the managers of railroads; next, the national government should appoint inspectors of railroads, who would have no State interests to subserve, and whose duty it would be to exercise a rigid supervision over the management of the railroads, their employees, rolling stock, time tables and rails. In many of the late disasters several soldiers lost their lives, or were hopelessly maimed. It is the duty, then, of the government to interfere, if for no other reason than to protect its troops while being transported from one point to another. The third method is for every one who is injured by a railroad accident to refuse all compromise with the company and bring an action for damages. It too often happens that people accept a small sum from some agent of the company in cases where, if they laid the matter before a jury, they would get four times the amount and the railroad company would receive a lesson that they would remember in future.

THE UNITED STATES NAVAL APPRENTICE SCHOOL SYSTEM.—The success that has thus far attended the revival of the naval apprenticeship system has been so flattering that there is no doubt it will, if it has not already, become an established branch of the national naval educational service. As a nursery for practical seamen and a thorough school for officers, a more advantageous system could not well be devised. All that is now necessary to impart strength and insure perpetuity to the institution is for Congress and the department to see that the errors which were allowed to creep in and mar the usefulness of the system when it was first established, in 1857, shall not be perpetuated under the present regulations, and that the school shall be carried on under the direction of humane, capable and experienced officers. This is the case at present on board the school frigate Sabine, commander R. B. Lowry, now at Norfolk. The Congressional Naval committee should also devote a few days to an official investigation of the system as practically illustrated on board the Sabine, and thus be the better able to suggest to Congress such legislation as may be necessary to promote the interests of the school.

In answer to numerous inquiries in regard to the method of getting boys into the school, we have to state that the process is very simple. All that is necessary is for the parent or guardian of the youth to take him before a competent navy enlisting officer—Captain Oscar Bullus, at the Naval Rendezvous, Cherry street, is among the most prominent in this city—and if he had passes the surgeon's examination, make the necessary affidavit before a notary public, who is at hand, sign the papers, and the youthful aspirant for the honors of an American naval hero, the young emulor of a Farragut, or a Winslow, or an Albemarle Cushing, at once becomes one of "Uncle Sam's own" until he is twenty-one. We publish in another column a copy of the official regulations for the enlistment and government of the naval apprentice boys, and invite to it the attention of those who have boys eligible and desirous of becoming members of the institution. The recommendation of Secretary Welles, that a portion of the midshipmen be selected from among the naval apprentices, is now before the Naval Committee of the House, and the reputation of the chairman of the committee for devotion to official business ensures for the subject early and effective action.

THE WAR BETWEEN BRAZIL AND URUGUAY.—There is now no doubt of the purpose of the Brazilian government to invade and seize upon the territory of the republic of Uruguay. This is one of the penalties that States pay for internal dissensions. They always invite aggression and spoliation from their more powerful neighbors. The Central and South American republics

might, by cultivating union among themselves, become the strongest and most unassailable governments in the world. But, like the bundle of sticks with which the Roman illustrated his argument, they become helpless when separated in interest. The cause of this want of union lies in the cupidity and selfishness of their public men. A South American politician seeks power only that he may enrich himself. It is indifferent to him what becomes of the commonwealth provided he can attain his object. Of course the masses follow the example thus set them, and revolution becomes the order of the day. In this way the door has been opened for the French to walk into Mexico, the Spanish into St. Domingo and the Chinchas Islands and the Brazilians into Uruguay. It is time for South American statesmen to wake up to these facts. If they do not sink their personal interests and quarrels in a common effort to defend their liberties they will soon have no liberties to defend. Brazil offers an example of a contrary policy, and the consequence is that she is becoming stronger and more powerful every day. The governments of the South American republics are only rushing upon their own destruction in keeping up the unhappy jealousies which render them so easy a prey to the invader.

THE DRAFT.

The Massachusetts Importation to Fill Her Quota—Government Refuses to Muster Them Into the Service—Their Arrival in New York, &c.

It is generally known that agents of the State of Massachusetts imported from Europe, a large number of men (about eleven hundred), landed them on one of the numerous islands in the vicinity of Boston, and made active preparations to put them into the army by the most liberal promise of pay, clothing, lands, &c., to be credited, of course, on her quota. But they, as a general thing, utterly refused to enter the army, though some of them assented. They were finally, however, all sent to Washington, when, on an investigation of the whole subject connected with their importation, deceptions practiced and money promised, of which they had received little or none, the government positively refused to muster them into the service of the United States or credit them to the Massachusetts quota. Consequently they are lost to that State, and all the expense she has been to concerning them is thrown away, to say nothing of the loss of character to her citizens. Large numbers of these men were wholly unfit for military duty, and government officers could have been found in Boston to have passed them as a mystery of which Boston alone holds the secret. Now these men are about upon the world, and most of them have arrived in this city penniless and in want. The able-bodied and healthy among them are men whom, who would do credit as soldiers to any army in the world—are ready and anxious to enlist if they can keep clear of Massachusetts. With this object a squad of twenty men were visited by Blunt's office on Saturday, and, though foreigners, would answer for substitutes, were any of our citizens, wanting substitutes, present to secure them, yet the misfortune is they desire to go as soldiers to the New York battery regiment. The War Department having just issued an order that all future enlistments must be for the infantry or the cavalry, it is deemed that the difficulty of receiving these men, and the consequence is we are likely to lose men enough out of this Massachusetts lot to recruit the 10th New York battery.

Blunt was in consultation on Saturday with General Hays in reference to the problem, who said that the difficulty was not in the War Department for a special order to enlist all these men who are able-bodied in a New York artillery regiment. It is hoped a favorable answer will be received. In the meantime Chairman Blunt has placed them in good quarters, where they will be well fed and taken proper care of, much to their delight, it being, they say, the best treatment they have received since arriving in this country.

This manner of filling State quotas Massachusetts has discovered will not work.

A Revision of the Quota.

General Hays has received instructions from Washington to fix the quotas of sub-districts in accordance with the order issued by Provost Marshal General Fry already published, and has been directed to report to the department all the enlistments up to the 31st day of December.

The object of this call for information is probably to arrange new quotas on the basis of enlistments up to that date. It will be seen by the order printed below that the government intends to have three hundred thousand men in the field, and the quotas of the last call, in addition to all credits heretofore allowed. No credits will be allowed for officers or invalids, or men enlisted in the navy upon papers and assigned previous to the 19th of December, or for anything but able-bodied enlisted men—a very judicious determination on the part of the government. The contemplated change in the quotas, it is to be hoped, will not deprive New York of any of her credits which have been so justly awarded to her. Supervisor Blunt went to Washington last night to see that the interests of the county are protected, and to make the proper representations to the department. In view of this new order from the department, and the uncertain position of districts, it will be well for every man who has a credit, to see to it that he has it duly deposited, the money for that purpose at once with the Volunteering Committee.

There are now plenty of substitutes offering, and no substitute money in the hands of the committee.

CIRCULAR NO. 1.

WAR DEPARTMENT, PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE, B. O. B. JAN. 8, 1865.

The attention of acting assistant provost marshals general of States and boards of enrollment, is called to the fact that the quotas assigned under the call of December 19, 1864, must be reduced, except by actual enlistments in the army navy and marine corps since the 19th ultimo.

JAMES H. FRY, Provost Marshal General.

The Quota of Brooklyn.

The total number of men required under the recent call of the President for three hundred thousand troops from Kings county is seven thousand six hundred and five, which is only ninety-five less than the number required under the call for five hundred thousand volunteers, when seven thousand seven hundred were asked for and furnished—with the naval contingent. As before, now stand the quotas of the Second district is fixed at four thousand nine hundred and ninety-five, and the Third district at two thousand six hundred and ten. The quota for the Second district is deemed excessive, and efforts will be made to induce the Provost Marshal General to reduce it, for which purpose a meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held to-day, with the view of authorizing a committee to proceed to Washington and lay the facts before the military authorities.

The Steamship St. David Outward Bound.

Portland, Jan. 8, 1865.

The steamship St. David sailed at half past eight o'clock last night for Londonderry and Liverpool.

Marine Disaster.

Boston, Jan. 8, 1865.

The schooner Charleston, from Elizabethport, with coal, sunk on Railroad Bar during the storm on Saturday night. The crew were saved. The wreck has been stripped of sails, and the hull will probably be raised.

Personal Intelligence.

Brigadier General Albert L. Lee is stopping at the Metropolitan Hotel. The General leaves immediately for Washington, in obedience to orders from the War Department.

Americans registered at Messrs. Vandenberg Brothers' No. 60 Rue de la Chaussee d'Antin; Messrs. Lherbette, Kane & Co., No. 8 Place de la Bourse, and Messrs. John Monroe & Co., No. 8 Rue de la Paix, for the week ending Dec. 23.—Richard M. Hoe and family, Henry W. Hubbell, Thomas Lloyd, J. A. Volin, Jr., E. J. Cutler, from New York; Wm. G. Moorhead and wife, Wm. E. Moorhead, Mrs. E. B. Moorhead, Miss Ada E. Moorhead, Dora B. Moorhead, Clara A. Moorhead, Carrie F. Moorhead, A. G. Heaton, from Philadelphia; James F. Curtis, George W. Healy, E. P. Bancroft and family, E. W. Spooner, Richard Hubbard, A. D. Hubbard, Mrs. B. Curtis, Jr., from Boston; George B. Farnum, of New Haven; H. G. Hazard, of Rhode Island.

The Fire in Centre Street.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

New York, Jan. 8, 1865.

In your paper of yesterday, in speaking of the fire in Centre street, you say that a fracas occurred between engines No. 2 and No. 31. We being in command of our respective companies, and not knowing of any such fracas, as you call it, do most respectfully ask for a contradiction of the same. Respectfully,

ROBERT A. JONES, Foreman Engine No. 2.

FRANCIS MAJURY, Foreman Engine No. 31.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WAR GAZETTE.

OFFICIAL.

Dismissal of Lieutenant Colonel W. J. L. Nicodemus, of the Signal Corps, for Publishing a Report Containing Information Useful to the Enemy.

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 304.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1864.

Lieutenant Colonel W. J. L. Nicodemus, Acting Assistant Chief of the Signal Corps, having, contrary to the regulations, and disregarding his duty as an officer, published, without authority and without the knowledge or sanction of the Secretary of War, a document relating to the branch of service under his charge, purporting to be the annual report of the Signal Corps, which contains information useful to the enemy and prejudicial to the service of the United States, for such irregular and improper conduct he is dismissed the service.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1865.

SECRETARY FESSENDEN AND THE FRENCH MISSION.

The unanimous nomination of Mr. Fessenden to the United States Senate by both Houses of the Maine Legislature is accepted here as conclusive evidence that he intends to accept the French Mission. It is stated that while the Legislature was divided—a majority of the Senate being for Mr. Fessenden and a majority of the House for Mr. Hamlin—an agreement was entered into by their respective friends that Mr. Fessenden should be complimented by a unanimous nomination, with the understanding that he would resign the Senate and accept the Mission to France, which had been tendered to him, and thus afford an opportunity for the election of Mr. Hamlin. The denial that Mr. Fessenden was a candidate for the French Mission was a part of this programme.

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE REBEL STATES.

It is known that a bill is pending in the House of Representatives for the reconstruction of the States the governments of which have been subverted or overthrown by rebellion, thus establishing a rule applicable to them all. Representative Wilson has introduced a substitute for the bill, providing that no representative shall be received from any such State until, by act or joint resolution of Congress, approved by the President or passed notwithstanding his objections, it shall be declared that the State has formed a just local government, republican in form and entitled to representation in Congress. In other words, the substitute proposes to deal with each State separately, on its own merits, without establishing a system of readmission applicable to them.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The receipts from internal revenue for the last week were over ten millions of dollars.

The comparison of the bank returns made at the Treasury Department shows that the loans of the New York banks amount to eighty-seven and a half per cent of their capital, deposits and circulation, while the loans of the Massachusetts banks exceed their capital and deposits by fifteen millions. It is to this great expansion of bank credits that the inflation of currency is largely due, as well as to the surplus of circulation from government and private issues.

The subscriptions to the ten-forty loan yesterday amounted to \$4,100,000, and to the seven-thirty loan nearly \$1,000,000.

THE PASSPORT SYSTEM.

A delegation is here from the Michigan Central and connecting railroads through the provinces, for the purpose of urging a modification or withdrawal of the order requiring passports from persons entering the United States from Canada. They had an interview with Secretary Seward on Saturday, in which they urged the matter on the ground that it was seriously injuring their business. They were refused, however, and the regulation will still continue to be enforced.

COMMUNICATION WITH NORTH CAROLINA.

The Chesapeake and Albemarle canal has of late been placed in good condition—the various breaks thoroughly repaired and mails and passengers sent through regularly every day. Captain A. T. Blunt, Chief Quartermaster at Norfolk, has placed several fine boats on the line, which leave Norfolk daily at ten o'clock A. M., on the arrival of the mail boat from Baltimore. Provost marshals' passes are